REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-19 are now present in the application. Claims 1, 2 and 5-9 have been amended. Claims 18 and 19 have been added. Claims 1 and 8 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 6-12 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuchitoi, US Patent 7,145,683, in view of Davidson, U.S. Patent No. 5,699,493, and further in view of Combar, U.S. Patent No, 7,058,600. Claims 5 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tuchitoi in view of Davidson and Combar, and further in view of Gassho, U.S. Patent No, 7,180,626. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections have been obviated and/or rendered moot. While not conceding to the Examiner's rejections, but merely to clarify the present invention, as the Examiner will note, independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

Independent claim 1 now recites a combination of elements including "a plurality of client stations adapted to submit print jobs, wherein each of the client stations includes means for generating and submitting a print account job which is generated as a second print job, the print account job containing account information of a corresponding print job and linked to the

corresponding print job by a linking identifier; at least one printing device including a control unit and a printer, the control unit including storage means for storing the print jobs and the corresponding print account jobs submitted from the client stations to the printing device; and means for validating the stored print jobs for printing, wherein said validating means receives the print account jobs and validates a corresponding print job for printing in the case a valid print account job generated as the second print job has been received."

Independent claim 8 now recites a combination of elements including "a control unit; and a printer, wherein the control unit is adapted to receive a print job, and a corresponding print account job generated as a second print job, the control unit including: storage means for storing the print job and the corresponding print account job in a holding queue; means for validating the stored print job for printing, said validating means being adapted to receive the corresponding print account job and validate the print job for printing in case the corresponding print account job generated as the second print job is valid."

Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 8 can be found in FIGs. 1-4 and the corresponding disclosure in the specification as originally filed. Applicant respectfully submit that the combinations of elements set forth in claims 1 and 8 are not disclosed or suggested by the references relied on by the Examiner.

The Examiner has correctly acknowledged that Tuchitoi and Davidson fail to teach that the print account job is generated as a second print job. However, the Examiner turned to rely on Combar's teaching in col. 15, line 56 – col. 16, line 20 and alleged that Combar can cure the deficiencies of Tuchitoi and Davidson. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In particular, Combar in col. 15, line 56 – col. 16, line 20 discloses:

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The Report Viewer application 215 is a GUI Applet **enabling a user to analyze and display the data and reports supplied from the fulfilling servers** such as StarODS 400, Traffic View ("TVS") 500, **and other systems such as Broadband and toll free network manager.** Particularly, the Report Manager 250 includes and provides access to the metadata which is used to tell the Report Requestor what a standard report should look like and the "pick-list" options the user has in order for them to customize the standard report. It is additionally used to tell the Report Viewer client how to display the report, what calculations or translations need to be performed at the time of display, and what further customization options **the user has while viewing the report.** It additionally includes a common report view by executing a GUI applet that is used for the display and graphing of report data and particularly, is provided with spreadsheet management functionality that defines what operations can be performed on the spreadsheet including the moving of columns, column suppression, column and row single and multiple selection, import and export of spreadsheet data, printing of spreadsheet, etc. It is also provided with report data management functionality by defining what operations can be performed on the data displayed in a spreadsheet including such dynamic operations as sorting of report data, sub-totaling of report data, etc. Furthermore, **the report viewer 215 is provided with functionality enabling the interpretation of Meta Data; and, functionality enabling communication with the Backplane** (FIG. 3). The Report Viewer application 215 additionally accepts messages telling it to display an image or text that may be passed by one of the applications in lieu of report data (e.g., Invoice, Broadband report, etc.) (Emphasis added.)

In other words, Combar simply discloses that the Report Viewer application 215 *enables a user to analyze and display the data and reports* supplied from the fulfilling servers and other systems such as Broadband and toll free network manager. Although the Report Viewer application 215 may allow the user to print the spreadsheet, Combar nowhere discloses that *the validity* of the spreadsheet or any data and reports supplied from the fulfilling servers *will be checked in order for a print job corresponding to the spreadsheet/data/reports to be validated and printed.* Therefore, although Combar's spreadsheet is printable, this spreadsheet (referred to by the Examiner as the print account job) has nothing to do with validating any print job corresponding to the spreadsheet. In other words, applying Combar's teaching to Tuchitoi and Davidson simply provides a feature of printing a spreadsheet that has nothing to do with validating a print job

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corresponding to the spreadsheet. Unlike Combar, in the present invention, although the print account job is generated as the second print job, this second print job is used to validate the corresponding print job, not generated for the purpose to be printed. Therefore, the combination of Tuchitoi, Davidson and Combar still fails to teach "said validating means receives the print account jobs and *validates a corresponding print job for printing in the case a valid print account job generated as the second print job has been received*" as recited in claim 1 and "said validating means being adapted to receive the corresponding print account job and *validate the print job for printing in case the corresponding print account job generated as the second print job is valid*" as recited in claim 8.

In addition, in the present invention, the print account job is *generated by the client station* and is *sent from the client station to the printing device*. However, Tuchitoi simply discloses that the database 152 of the printer 150 manages the attributes of a print job (referred to by the Examiner as the print account job), but nowhere describes that the attributes of a print job are generated and sent from the host 100 (referred to by the Examiner as the client station) to the printer 150. Instead, Tuchitoi in col. 9, lines 54-56 discloses that *the job-processor 153 of the printer 150 set the attributes of the print job*. Therefore, Tuchitoi fails to teach "each of the *client stations includes means for generating and submitting a print account job*" and "at least one printing device including a control unit and a printer, the control unit·including storage means for storing the print jobs and *the corresponding print account jobs submitted from the client stations to the printing device*" as recited in claim 1.

Davidson also fails to cure the deficiencies of Tuchitoi. In particular, Davidson in col. 10, lines 9-13 discloses that the job accounting information contents (referred to by the Examiner as

the print account job) are *uploaded from the laser printer into a host computer* (referred to by the Examiner as the client station). In other words, the job accounting information contents are sent from the printer to the host computer, not from the computer to the printer. Therefore, Davidson also fails to teach "each of the *client stations includes means for generating and submitting a print account job*" and "at least one printing device including a control unit and a printer, the control unit including storage means for storing the print jobs and *the corresponding print account jobs submitted from the client stations to the printing device*" as recited in claim 1.

With regard to the Examiner's reliance on Gassho, this reference has only been relied on for its teachings against some dependent claims. This reference also fails to disclose the above combinations of elements as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 8. Accordingly, this reference fails to cure the deficiencies of Tuchitoi, Davidson and Combar.

Accordingly, none of the utilized references individually or in combination teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 8. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claims 1 and 8 clearly define over the teachings of the utilized references.

In addition, claims 2-7 and 9-17 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1 and 8, and are therefore allowable based on their respective dependence from independent claims 1 and 8, which are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-17 clearly define the present invention over the references relied on by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Claims 18 and 19 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. Support for new claims 18 and 19 can be found in paragraph [0015] of the specification as originally filed. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18 and 19 are allowable due to their respective dependence on independent claims 1 and 8, as well as due to the additional recitations included in these claims. Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 18 and 19 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Cheng-Kang (Greg) Hsu, Registration No. 61,007 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.
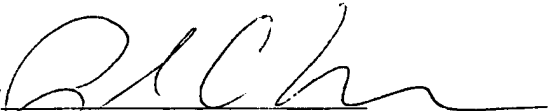
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 19, 2009   Respectfully submitted,

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